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Wally Springs  
Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> 1870

Dear Belle;  
I have been  
to brother Willie's this  
evening and he told  
me. To tell you he  
was going to Memphis  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> of Jan'y. That  
he would leave there  
on the morning train  
(leaves at 5 or 6 o'clock)  
of the 4<sup>th</sup> and if it  
suited you to come  
that morning. he would  
take charge of you  
with pleasure. He will  
not be at the hotel, so



I suppose you could  
only hope to meet up  
with him at the  
depot. You must try  
and fix up to come  
with him. It will be  
such a good chance  
and when he comes  
back Brodie will be  
going to N.C. and  
leave me entirely  
alone. If you don't  
come Will. will run his  
"poor" legs off. Going to  
turn you in. (I reckon  
brother can tell you how  
hard it is to get in my  
front door) and never  
fails to say. when the  
"bus" goes on by, "well I  
think Aunt Belle might



have come today".

The children have received your nice & kind remembrances of them and enjoyed them hugely today. I hung them with their stockings, and they think you sent them out by Santa Claus, and are going to ask you how he looks.

Haven't you all nearly frozen this weather? I think every thing on the place that had any freeze in it, was stiff. We had a half barrel of oranges frozen here in my room where the fire never



I have some more  
writing to do, so must  
bid you all good-bye  
Give my love to all  
and I hope I shall  
see you very soon.  
Yours with love  
and affection  
Helen.



From  
Mary Greet  
Mother  
Aunt Helen  
Edmondson Camp  
Signed:  
Swainborg Williams  
Dec. 1932



Mrs. Belle Edmondson  
Care Gilchrist Hotel  
Memphis Tenn



goes out, and I lost  
all of my hot-house  
plants, and they were  
looking so beautiful?

I have got a piano.  
for you, as you must  
bring your music, and  
bring me some of your  
songs, but I am so rusty  
I shall enjoy my  
singing more than any  
one else.

How is Jon now? and  
does Kate continue well?  
but most of all how  
did poor old Father and  
sister Paddy get through  
this winter.

Tell Father the night  
of the 28<sup>th</sup> I went to  
add crafts to a big



supper. They had no  
egg nog, or any thing  
stronger than cyllabub,  
but I took some of  
that, and thought  
of him and his  
adventure and happy  
escape.

It is so freezing, cold  
that the only Christmas  
I have seen or heard  
of, was the children  
with their stockings.  
I wrote you about,  
Laura and suppose I  
will hear from you  
in a short time. I  
think Hannah will  
continue with me, as  
cook. I sorely hope  
to get Laura though.